



BADGER STATE Smoke Signals



Serving Amateur Radio In Wisconsin

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Baraboo Wis.

Jan. 1983

VICTOR C. CLARK, W4KFC: 1917-1983

From THE ARRL LETTER

Amateur Radio is saddened by the crushing news that ARRL President Victor C. Clark, W4KFC, is a Silent Key. Vic complained of chest pains Friday Morning, November 25, and because of his history of an earlier heart attack was taken to the emergency room of Commonwealth Doctors Hospital in Fairfax. He was placed in the cardiac intensive care unit for observation, but at that point there was no suspicion of what was to come. At about 10:30 P.M., Vic was stricken with a massive heart attack. One minute he was joking with the doctors; the next minute he was gone.

Vic Clark brought to the post of ARRL President the personal qualities which had made him one of the most respected and best known members of the worldwide amateur radio fraternity. Messages of condolence have been pouring in from all over the world: from all continents and some twenty countries in just the first few days. Countless organizations and individuals throughout the U.S. and Canada have echoed these sentiments, as well.

As chairman of the ARRL Long Range Planning Committee, Vic laid the groundwork for the ARRL of the 1980's and beyond -- A revitalized organization with greater opportunities for grassroots participation which was just beginning to take shape when he was taken from us. As ARRL President, he took such a deep personal interest in the League's affairs that those of us who labor full-time on behalf of the organization were hard-pressed to keep up. Through it all, he was a devoted family man to his wife Hester, WA4PAE; to their six children; Ken, K4QKZ, Andy WA4PRF, Roger, Beth Schang, KA4YTN, Miriam Huddins, and Jennifer Warner; and to seven grandchildren.

The Clark family advises that memorial contributions may be made to the ARRL Foundation, 225 Main St., Newington CT 06111. A memorial fund is being established, the purpose of which will be designated later.

Under the ARRL Articles of Association and By-Laws, in the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the First Vice President assumes the office for the remainder of the unexpired term. Thus, Carl L. Smith, W0EWJ, is President, and Larry E. Price, W4RA, is First Vice President until the 1984 Annual Meeting of the Board.

Vic Clark, W4KFC, epitomized operating excellence. Hardly a Sweepstakes or DX Contest passed that Vic did not participate in. But his operating favorite was Straight Key Night held each year on New Year's Eve. While many others greeted in the New Year in less dedicated fashion, Vic was always at his rig doing what he liked best -- pounding brass with his fellow hams. Vic perennially headed the list of nominees for "best fist."

It is only fitting that this New Year's Eve Straight Key Night be dedicated to Vic's memory. As a last tribute to W4KFC, anyone who can scratch two pieces of wire together is encouraged to make at least one SKN QSO and commemorate our remembrance of the "peoples president" by using a special prosign at the conclusion of each contact. Instead of the traditional SK, all stations may indicate a final farewell with the letters "VIC" at the end of a contact. SKN details appear on page 100 of December QST.

Who knows? Perhaps Vic will look down approvingly on our mortal activities and break into his famous warm smile with each "VIC" that permeates the ether.

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Ken Ebnetter, K9EN, Chairman
 Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor
 Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Treasurer

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 Baraboo, Wisconsin

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 changes to:

Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN
 822 Wauona Trail
 Portage, Wisconsin 53901

CLUB MEETINGS:Fourlakes Amateur Radio Club:

The FLARC BANQUET will be held Saturday January 28, 1984 at Feldman's at Northgate. Reservations by January 21, 1984 to: Fred Weight, W9VFD.k

Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club:

Next regular meeting - Thursday January 12, 1984. Visitors are welcome, and a special invitation is extended to all members of the ARRL - we are the oldest affiliate of your League.

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club:

Monday January 16, 1984 in Baraboo, Wisconsin.
 See details in VTARC section.

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club:

January 8, 1984 at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Atkinson.

Kettle Moraine Radio Club:

Family Fisherice in February.

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs (Stevens Point)

Annual Banquet: January 11, 1984, 6:00 pm at the Blue Top Supper Club. Entertainment by Clyde Richelieu, The Banjo Man.

Let us know of your club meeting dates and we will let others know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.

SWAPFESTS AND OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS

The 12th Annual Midwinter Swapfest (the Original Waukesha Swapfest) sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club will be held on Saturday, January 7, 1984 at the Waukesha County Expo Center Forum. Starting time is 8:00 AM and admission is \$2.00 in advance or \$3.00 at the door. Tables are \$3.00 reserved until 11:00 AM or \$4.00 at the door (first come first served). Also featured is our delicious food. Directions: I-94 to Co. F, south to FI, west to Expo. For tickets or info write with S.A.S.E. to: WARAC, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

The Tri-County Amateur Radio Club will hold their annual Hamfest On March 18, 1984, at the Fairgrounds in Jefferson, Wisconsin. The 84 Hamfest is to have some changes:

- (1) Name changed from "Swapfest" to "Hamfest".
- (2) 1 1/2 hour happy time about 1:30 in the afternoon day of the Hamfest.
- (3) Added free parking.
- (4) Tables to be \$3.00 advance, \$4.00 at door and \$2.00 for space.

Note: Admission is still old price of \$2.50 advance and \$3.00 at door, same as last year. Advance registrations will be handled by Robert Barker, 724 Burdick St., Milton, Wisconsin 53563

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to K9EN. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages and/or we can include your flyers. For information on rates and requirements please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 134 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
 NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 14, 1983

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The FCC on December 14, 1983, voted in the strongest possible manner to retain the morse code requirement for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses. Private Radio Bureau Chief Robert Foosaner said that the Amateur Radio Service is well, thriving, and providing an excellent service to the American public. He strongly recommended that FCC maintain the code requirement, endorse the service as it is, and bury the concept of no code. Chairman Mark Fowler stated that the code is very important and in some cases essential for getting the message through. He said further that radio Amateurs have contributed vitally to the country and recently were stalwart in performing the communications with Grenada. The vote was unanimous to reject the concept of no code. AR

NEW FCC EXAM SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The following schedule has been received from the Federal Communications Commissions St. Paul Field Office

You may wish to take your radio operator examination in one of the cities where an FCC Field Office is located. Examinations are conducted by appointment only. To make an appointment, contact your local Field Office prior to the cut-off date.

Listed below are the dates of the examination and the cut-off dates for accepting applications.

EXAMINATIONS WILL BE HELD CUT OFF DATES FOR
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

FEBRUARY 6 thru 10, 1984 January 15, 1984

MAY 7 thru 11, 1984 April 15, 1984

AUGUST 6 thru 10, 1984 July 15, 1984

NOVEMBER 5 thru 9, 1984 October 15, 1984

Applicants who file an acceptable application will receive, about one week prior to the examination dates, a notice specifying the place, date, and hour you are to appear for the examination.

This is the same schedule as for the Chicago and all other FCC Field Offices. Note also the fact that exams will require appointments. Previously, tests were given on a walk-in basis. For your reference, here are the FCC's St. Paul and Chicago Field Offices addresses and telephone numbers:

Federal Communications Commission
691 Federal Building
316 N. Robert St.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
Telephone (612) 725-7810

Federal Communications Commission
230 So. Dearborn St., Room 3940
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Telephone (312) 353-0195

MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS
Oh what the heck -- a few items of interest:

Tri-County ARC

Tom WD9FRI is going on a vacation this spring to visit his brother in Guatemala.

Green Fox ARC
FOX TAILS

The following H&K comes from WB9RBC.....
When grounding braid is needed, use an old length of RG-8U. Cut off the outer insulation, slip out the inner conductor and you have your needed braid. Sweat the ends with solder, drill a hole for mounting and you can't beat the price.

Badger Amateur Radio Society (W9YT)

Sweepstakes results:

CW W9YT (WB9PYE op.) 67,160
 AC9C 65,700

Phone W9YT (multi. op.) 181,000 approx.

The multi. op. effort at YT included KA0BZK, W9TR, AC9C, W9PYE, and N2NU. N9BYK and W9WI may have participated in the CW contest, but I don't have their scores. W9YT was the only station active for the PHONE contest.

WB9PYE is graduating this semester. Motorola and R.F.E. (I think) are at least two of the places offering employment. Steve has certainly done his share to make this club to. He will be missed. Good luck Steve.

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs Ltd. (Stevens Point)
WATTS SMOO

Club meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Club Officers are:

Pres. Jim Benak, KA9ACE
V.P. Mary Eiden, KA9FAS
Sec.Tr. Frank Guth, W9BCC
Activities Mgr. Harvey Nelson, KA9KUH
Equipment Engr. Leo Liebi, W9NYS

The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

The WAR has a listing of the Repeaters and other information for repeater operators and users for the state available for a SASE to Dave Knaus, WA9POV, 5237 W. Lincoln Creek Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53218.

West Allis Radio Amateurs Club
HAMTRIX

The 1984 Wisconsin QSO Party will be on March 11, 1984 for a 7 hour period beginning at 1800Z. Rules and summary sheet will be included with the next issue of BSSS.

The WARAC Annual Awards Dinner was held on December 4. It was attended by 48 people and the highlight of the evening was the presentation of a plaque to Member of the Year - 1983, Les Peterson, W9YCV.

WARAC members W9YCV, W9FJE, N9HR, and WA9POV hear W5LFL during some of the passes of the STS-9 over the Milwaukee area.

Joe Stevens, W9GAN made a \$50.00 donation to ARRL "Operation Goodwill" for a complete station kit. He had at that time been licensed (since 1928) for 50 years and hoped, in that way, to be able to help someone in a most enjoyable hobby, Ham Radio. He recently received an air mail letter from VU2MST with thanks for the kit and now hopes to have the real pleasure of being able to work the amateur who assembles and uses the kit. Who knows, it could happen.

Our thanks to the above mentioned clubs and their bulletins for the information presented. Badger State Smoke Signals would be happy to exchange bulletins and information with your club. Please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

ALL ABOUT COMPUTERS

via ARNS

Various newspapers have recently run an article stating that the Public Broadcasting System will air a 12-week course (Academy of Computers) on computer training by way of television. The course will start on Saturday, January 22. No time is given since the PBS stations can use it where it will fit best.

For anyone interested in computers whether it be general knowledge or programing, this might provide an opportunity to take a course at home. No information is given as to the level of teaching or the makes of the computers to be used

WISCONSIN NETS ASSOCIATION LTD.

WISCONSIN NETS

NET	WNA	FREQ	UTC	LOCAL CST	MANAGER
BWN	YES	3984	1200Z	0600	WD9IID
BEN	YES	3985	1800Z	1200	WB9ESM
WSBN	YES	3985	2330Z	1730	K9ANV
WNN	YES	3723	0000Z	1800	KA9HPQ
WSSN	YES	3645	0030Z	1830	KC9CJ
WIN-E	YES	3662	0100Z	1900	W9YCV
WIN-L	YES	3662	0400Z	2200	K9L6U
XPD	NO	3925	1831Z	1231	WA9YVC
NWITN	YES	.34/.94	0030Z	1830	N9BDL
WCHTN	YES	.31/.91	0030Z	1830	N9AUG
GR.BAY NO		.72/.12	THU 0245Z	2045 WED	WB9NRK

K9UTQ has Public Service Manual, Net Directory and Operating An Amateur Radio Station Available free for a SASE.

The WNA picnic will be September 15, 1984. Site not yet confirmed. Committee is checking on availability of Wood County Parks.

KC9CJ is looking for more WNA Boosters. Present membership is 39 Boosters. Contact KC9CJ for information on joining the WNA Boosters.

Our SM K9FHI is looking for someone to fill the post of Affiliated Club Coordinator as WA9POV is retiring from the post due to out of state work activities.

BADGER WEATHER NET

Once again, we are entering the winter season, and temperature readings are reflecting this. During the past three month period, (September, October and November) traffic has been up 17 percent with November 1983, the highest traffic ever, 1555 messages. New N.C.S. on Thursday is AG9B, replacing W9IHW-GVS who is in winter residence at Dade City, Florida.

While we have many of the State's areas covered, we have some large gaping holes that need filling, for example, the La Crosse area. Inquiries should be directed to KA9CPA, Bob at Iola, or WD9IID, Mac, Ringle. Both can be found daily on many Wisconsin Nets.

Hope everyone has a prosperous New Year!

73, WD9IID - MAC - B.W.N.W.M.

BADGER EMERGENCY NET

BEN activities are steady. The past three months are about equal to last year. QNI, QTC are steady. We did well on SET in Sept. Had an increase in traffic and in types of traffic over last year by about 50 percent. We had half as many stations checking in. Still total points increased by approximately 25 percent.

We have two new net control stations. They are Larry N9AUG and Tom WD9FRI. Still could use more.

Like to wish everyone the best for the holidays. Don't over do it!!!

73, WB9ESM

Good Media - The Name of the Game

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ
Public Information Officer
Wisconsin Section ARRL
Route 1, Box 770
North Freedom, WI 53951-9779

Hope your Christmas was a merry and holy, and wishing you the very best in 1984.

Gotta start this scribing with a pat on the back to the ARRL. The new Field Organization is taking shape all over. And the new setup puts a lot more responsibility in the field, rather than having to "have those guys in Newington" do it all. ("Those guys..." is an often heard [and seldom correct] blanket criticism of the HQ staff.)

The response to the letter I sent to all actively affiliated clubs left a lot to be desired. But there were some hard and willing souls who were willing to take the bull by the horns and tackle the responsibilities of Public Information Assistant. Our fine folk are:

Greg A. Miller, KA9FQZ, La Crosse
James C. Boll, N9DAD, Madison
Kenneth M. Van De Lande, N9CPC, Wausau
Al Hovey Jr., WA9BZW, Shawano
Larry Hamre, AI9N, Eau Claire

Welcome aboard...a great group indeed.

They have all received their certificates from me. The beautiful calligraphy on the PIA certificates was generously done by Bob King, KA9GNY, Baraboo. Thanx, Robert.

Most of my correspondence with the group will be via this newspaper. Hopefully, doing that in these hal-lowed pages will draw more willing folk out of the woodwork. The job isn't that hard and we need a bunch more...if you're interested in some interesting and rewarding work, drop me a note.

Regarding Owen Garriott (MSL/Spacecraft Columbia)... The high mucky-muck at ARRL HQ is looking for any newspaper copy resulting from the STS9 operation for two things: HQ is making a giant scrapbook for Owen and one for HQ itself. If you created or saw any media (i.e. newspapers) and still have a copy to spare, please wrap it up in a swaddling package and ship it off to the hinterlands on the prairie to me. After I get a goodly number, I'll send 'em to Pete O'Dell (the mucky-muck). Thanx!

Also, if you or someone you know was visited by a TV crew (or had a studio interview), ARRL would like a copy of the unedited (all of) videotape along with a release from the station. Some of those tapes will go into an updated version of that great tape made by Roy Neal, K60UE. I am sure that the footage won't be commercially used. You can also send whatever you might have to me and I'll ship it off to Pete. Danke.

Had some news clippings sent to me by Gene Santoski, K9UTQ and Al Hovey Jr., WA9BZW. Gene scored big in the Wisconsin Rapids newspaper - a nice spread indeed. Al had 2 radio interviews, also the station aired some of Al's tape and ran another show as Columbia landed.

Al's high spot came as he was addressing a school class of 27 students - they heard W5LFL live from the Columbia just fine and are now writing reports to be sent to ARRL HQ.

Other special items for Al were the help of Tom Ahshonbrenner, WA9DAY; also to WTCN/WDMN, Wheeler Broadcasting. Al sez his phone almost rang off the hook at times! And...as you see in the letters... sometimes interesting things show up on your hand-held when you're in public. Congrats to all...and thank frenzy of the moment, I hope I included everyone who sent me clippings and other items.

Appears that my letter to clubs asking for PIA volunteers wasn't clear. The reason for working thru currently-affiliated clubs is simple: Most of the media-worthy Amateur Radio activities happen in clubs. The media hype is supposed to come from a PIA in those clubs and send primarily to media in the service areas of those clubs. One club apparently thought that I was the state mucky-muck who would write news on behalf of those clubs and is sending me their paper. But all the would should be initiated locally by a local media person for use in local media. (I do enjoy that peper, though...hope you'll keep it coming every month...and thank.)

There will be times a local PIA will want to service more than just local media with a story. Great...do it. If a story is indeed interesting, and if you service more than local papers (i.e. sending a story to the Milwaukee - or wherever - papers), you are likely to be surprised by a phone call from the larger papers for an interview. A great payoff...the smaller outlets will probably print your news release just about the way you scribed it, but the story will be greatly expanded by a larger paper.

Owen Garriott's flight is a good example. As PIA for Yellow Thunder ARC, I wrote a five-paragraph release on the upcoming operation of a spaced-out ham. I mailed about 20 to our rural area media. I thought I'd might as well take a shot at more coverage. I sent 'em to the Milw Sentinel and Journal...was interviewed and a great story was the result. It never hurts to try.

(One of our more upstanding local dailies thought the story wasn't of any value. I called the editor...she said she had lost it...sent her another...nada...then she said it wasn't much of a story. Can't help but wonder what she thought after the story showed up on their news wire. Don't think it ever was run.)

I don't really know just what helpful materials the League might have to send on to our PIAs, but hoping that something will be available. By the way, if any of our PIAs currently work in the media, I'd like to know about it.

Finally, as most of youse buys know, I changed my QTH in October and I'm still trying to locate the floor. As I remember, it is on the bottom of the room. Anyhoo...even tho I made a commendable effort at keeping my stuff (What does George Carlin call that?), I'm not sure if I kept all my paperwork in one place. If I have missed anyone: i.e. the new PIAs - please drop me a note.

OK OK...enuf of this. If you have any questions about the PIA appointment or if you need info or help, I'd be happy to give you a hand. Ship me a letter. The next time you read any of my P10 scratchings, we should be

having more tolerable weather... Probably April.

Have a great 1984!

73, Jim, K9ZZ, P10 WI

WE GET LETTERS

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Ur doing FB JOB - keep up gud wrk!!! Just a small correction on page 4 of the December issue. Re: teleconference - Milwaukee repeater is 145.13 not 147.13. I really appreciated the beautiful letter from the XYL of Silent Key WA9GYF. (was in CW traffic net few times with him.)

73, Keith, KV9P

p.s. How about a letters to the editor column in BSSS??

(ed note: Ok Keith, you asked for it, here it is!!!)

CHECK OUT LINE IS SPACED OUT

Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

Dear Jim:

Just a note about my attempts to QSO W5LFL. I heard him on 5 or six different passes. I was only using my ICOM IC-2AT. When I heard him I dashed out to the truck to connect the amp, etc. I don't know if I got thru but the input channels (earth to W5LFL) were real busy!! The best I head him was at 1630 Local on Monday 12-5. (Maybe it was Tues 12-6).

Anyhow, I was standing in the checkout line at Shopko when I heard him. That was the best I had heard him. Needless to say I caused quite a stir there in line! A lady asked me "Is that really the Space Shuttle?"

I don't know if I ever got thru to him. I made a half dozen or so attempts on the various passes that I heard him.

I was very pleased to see your front sheet of the Dec. BSSS. It is truly a tragedy but too many people are afraid or unwilling to remember whose birthday we celebrate at Christmas and that God is controlling all things. Merry Christmas.

73, Ron, W9UW

SOMEBODY'S MIXED UP From Indiana County ARA via ARNS

Last year, I asked a young lady to be my wife but she gave me a very decided negative answer. So, to get even, I married her mother. Then my father married the girl. Fine, except that when I married the girl's mother, the girl became my daughter. When my father married the girl, of course he then becomes my son. Since my father married my daughter, she then became my mother, right? Now... If my father is my son, and my daughter my mother... who am I? My brother's mother is my wife and therefore now must become my grandmother. So, being my grandmother's husband, then I must be my own grandfather!! And there you are.

Al's high spot came as he was addressing a school class of 27 students - they heard WSLFL live from the Columbia just fine and are now writing reports to be sent to ARRL HQ.

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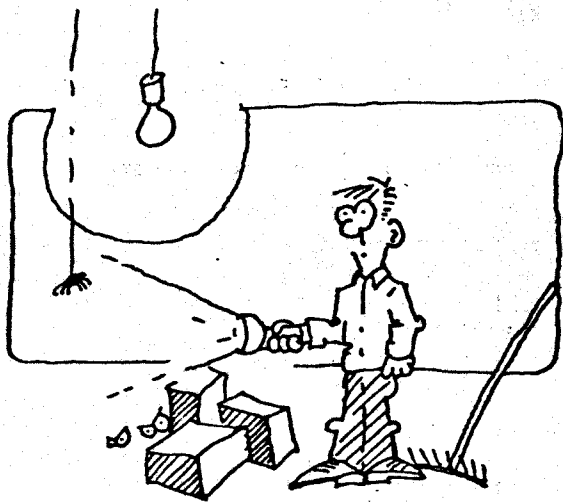
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BE ALERT FOR
THE *UNANSWERED QUESTION...*

A new 1984 calendar, freshly hung on the ham shack wall, stops swaying. It brings to mind predictions folks made years ago of potential progress for electronic-technology in the mid-eighties. Computers, electronic mail, space communications and electronic circuits from solid-state frequency synthesis to phase-locked loops - predictions that have become reality.

Some hams got computers for Christmas, and already operate them on RTTY, ASCII, radio-bulletin-board systems or computerized CW while Santa brought a few others new-fangled SSTV, AMTOR and voice-synthesized gadgets.

How does it feel to be alive during this electronic space age, where even space communications is possible? You don't feel any different? You say you're just another ham at club meetings, maybe wearing the same suit and tie you wore at the last meeting? Nevertheless, changes are taking place in hamming and now is the time to get in on the ground floor to learn about new ham systems.

If you already know about the fascinating new ham radio technology and computers, you might be able to answer newcomer's questions. Don't miss an opportunity to answer a question, a call for help, directed to you because you have technical knowledge. A missed chance suddenly becomes an *unanswered question*.

For example, a couple of us are in our cars heading home from a ham picnic, keeping in touch on 2-meters during the 130-mile drive. Later in the evening we stop for a bite to eat. During the meal a fellow asks me, "What can I do with the 6-meter beam I built that has backward directivity?" Information is exchanged and suggestions are discussed, eventually resulting in an *unanswered question*. Am I on guard for the dreaded *unanswered question* while chewing on a bacon cheeseburger? Yup, no need to panic. This *unanswered question* is finally handled by admitting, "I don't know the answer." There are lots of things I don't know. But quickly I add in an encouraging voice, "I'll try my best to find an answer and let you know." I scurry home, do my research and write a letter to the questioning ham describing the answers I found. Further, from my list of 53-ARRL Technical Advisors, I refer him to two experts on the subject. It's a happy ending, a picnic without any ants or *unanswered questions*.

The moral of the story - condition yourself to be alert in your field of knowledge for *unanswered questions*. If

you spot one, answer it or say you don't know the answer but will follow up later. Then, make sure you do follow up. Keep alert and good luck in the new year.

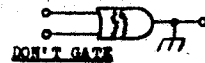
Richard Regent, K9GDF, Technical Coordinator
5003 South 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221

CHIPS FOUND FLOATING DOWN SILICON VALLEY

From QRP QUARTERLY. By Roy Trumbull (via ARNS)

The state of the Art is changing rapidly. In fact I ran into him in New Mexico last month. Seems he had just gotten back from China where he had just seen their latest computer. It was really fantastic, but they still have a problem with noise from the beads. I asked Art to clue me in on the latest devices coming out of research and these are the ones he told me about:

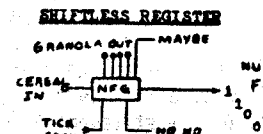
A: The Don't Gate: You don't get no output no matter what's at the inputs. It is believed that the Don't Gate was the break-through that made the LSI write only memory possible.



B: The Noise Emitting Diode:
When connected across a 1000 volt supply it makes a loud noise (once). The NED was discovered by Igor Pravaganda whom you'll recall worked many years trying to filter AC with electrolytics. He'll always be remembered as the father of the confetti generator.



C: Shiftless Register: Must be used with 3 speed forward clutch gate. Shifts at 15, 25 and 35 bits per second. Double clutching with logic 2's is not supported.



D: Inoperational Amplifier (In-Op Amp): Linear cousin of the DON'T gate. Provides no output for any input at a slew rate of 0 volts per micro-second. Mil. Spec version available at 100 times the cost of the OEM version.



E: J(UN)K Flip Flop: Doesn't change state when clocked regardless of input state. Changes state only when cola machine down the hall makes change.

F: Excess 3 to Insufficient 4 Carry Forward Fudger:
Used to enter Murphy factor and get programmer off the
hook.

6: Moss: Highly experimental material. Very rare at present since the only source is from under grizzly bear toenails. Turns green when facing north while on wood substrate.

H: Fuzz Locked Loop: Great if you want to avoid radar speed traps. (So experimental, no release of schematic is available to date.)

NO-CODE BURIED

From The ARRL Letter

"Basically I feel the item is a report on the health of the Amateur Radio Service. The Amateur Radio Service is well, it's thriving, and it's providing an excellent service to the American public." With these words Private Radio Bureau Chief Robert Foosaner introduced the staff recommendation to the FCC Commissioners that the "No-Code" proposal (Docket 83-28) be dismissed "for keeps." Almost 5000 comments were filed, running 20 to 1 against removing the code requirement.

Foosaner said that in reaching the decision, the Private Radio Bureau considered three questions: (1) Is the Amateur Radio Service growing? (2) Is the code an unnecessary barrier to young computer-oriented individuals? (3) Is the slow-speed code requirement discriminatory against handicapped individuals? Question one was answered by statistics showing that in 1930 there were 30,000 licensees; in 1975, 300,000 and in 1983 well over 400,000. On the second point, Foosaner noted that although the code test is something one must prepare for, it requires a minimal amount of study to pass the slow-speed exam. Finally, Foosaner read a portion of the comments filed by Handi-Hams, which reported that they had trained over 5,000 severely handicapped individuals in the skills needed to pass Amateur Radio examinations. For some of these individuals, Morse Code is the only mode that they are capable of using!

"In conclusion," The bureau chief said, "I strongly recommend that we maintain the code requirement, we endorse the Service as it is, and we bury the concept of 'no-code.'" Ten months ago few hams would have expected his statement to come from the FCC staff. But that is what the staff recommended, and a few minutes later the FCC Commissioners voted unanimously to keep the Morse Code requirement for all classes of ham licenses in the United States.

Chairman Mark Fowler made these concluding statements:

"... I think this is the right decision; we can put it to rest once and for all and I agree with the item ... Radio amateurs have contributed vitally to our country just recently; they were stalwart in their service in performing communications with Grenada ... The Code sometimes is very important, indeed even critical for getting the messages through ..."

ARRL President Carl Smith, W0BWJ, sent this "thank you for no no-code" telegram to FCC Chairman Mark Fowler on December 15:

"Your remarks yesterday morning at the FCC Open Meeting, regarding the usefulness of the Morse code and the contributions of radio amateurs to the country, are deeply appreciated by the Amateur Radio community. Please accept our congratulations and thanks for the way in which you the other Commissioners, and your staff have handled this important item. In putting the no-code issue to rest once and for all, you have demonstrated a commendable responsiveness to the people you are appointed to serve and have given the radio amateurs of the United States a fine Christmas present."

HAMVENTION IN THE SKY

From Mission-Aire (Disciples of A.R. Fellowship),
via ARNS Bulletin

I dreamed I attended the great Hamvention in the sky
And heavens gate swung wide
With kindly grace an angel fair
Said, "Hi" and usered me inside.
And there to my astonishment
Stood folks I knew on earth
With call signs world wide
Some I'd judged and labled as
Unfit, or of little worth.
Indignant words rose from my lips
But were never set free
For every face showed stunned surprise
NO ONE EXPECTED ME!

MURPHY'S LAW (AS IT APPLIES TO HAM RADIO CONVENTIONS)
from THE GROUND WAVE - St Paul Radio Club, Inc.

1. The convention hotel never heard of you when you arrive at the front desk to claim your room reservation.
2. The main banquet speaker you came to hear will miss his flight connection at O'Hare....however, his luggage arrived in time.
3. Regardless of where you sit in the banquet room, you will be served last.
4. Whoever wins the grand door prize will need the money to buy diesel fuel for his/her Mercedes mobile.
5. Just as you finalize a trade-in deal with your used gear you hauled 150 miles to the dealers convention booth, you realize the instruction manual is still sitting on your operating desk at home.
6. Your registration is returned with a notation that the "convention block" of rooms is sold out and the nearest motel with rooms available is located 10 blocks from the convention site.
7. The DX Forum and the Beam Antenna Seminar (both of which you want to attend) are scheduled at the same time.
8. When the hourly door prizes are drawn, the Extra class Ham wins the 5 W.P.M. code practice tapes and the 2-meter Technician wins the DX Callbook.

The Post Office would have you believe the enlarged Zip Code has speeded up delivery by the ninth power.

Mayor of a small town: "We are planning a new jail and expect to be in it before the end of the year."

They're planning a new breakfast cereal for the who-dun-it fans.
It's called "Agatha Crispies."

I had another item to put here but I found there wasn't